

Capital Journal

An Independent Newspaper—Established 1888
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Published every afternoon except Sunday at 280 North Church St. Phone 2-2406.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

By Carrier: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$15.00. By Mail in Oregon: Monthly, \$1.00; Six Months, \$6.00; One Year, \$12.00. By Mail Outside Oregon: Monthly, \$1.25; Six Months, \$7.50; One Year, \$15.00.

SOME QUEER CAMPAIGN THOUGHTS

To those who have come to expect queer things of candidates for office, Secretary of State Earl Newbry's speech at Eugene will be no surprise, but plenty of others are going to find it difficult to understand.

Newbry, a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor, hence presumably interested in saying and doing things that will attract support, reopens the sales tax question. In some other states this might be done with comparative safety, though the sales tax is a bad one everywhere. But Oregon has rejected it five times, and the last time by an overwhelming majority. If there is anything our people have made up their minds on it is a sales tax. They don't want it. Not even another look.

Then Newbry got into the Hells Canyon matter, which was proper, because an Oregon governor may have a little influence on what is done there, if it isn't decided before next January. Newbry criticized the low dam proposal, but for a new and different reason than has been advanced heretofore. He is quoted by the United Press as saying that within the next couple of generations the most important function of dams in the Columbia basin will be irrigation and that high dams are better suited to this purpose.

Newbry should know that this depends upon where the dams are located. Some dams are already valuable mostly for irrigation. But Hells Canyon is at the lower end of the area suitable for irrigation in the Snake river valley. It will be necessary to make the water run uphill from its reservoir for irrigation use, unless the Horse Heaven country in Southeast Washington is eventually irrigated, which so far as we know has never been proposed. If it ever is there are better, more economical places to store the water. All have agreed heretofore that Hells Canyon, whoever builds it and whether one dam or three, will be essentially a power project with some flood control and navigation but no irrigation benefits.

Newbry also advocated building the John Day dam, and is quoted as seeing irrigation benefits there, too. Where, one wonders. Only the already well watered lands along the lower Columbia where it would never be remotely close to feasible to construct a costly system for gravity irrigation. Pumping is the answer there if supplemental water is needed.

In justice to himself and to the party whose nominee he might become, the secretary should give more thought to his campaign pronouncements from now on.

INADEQUATE MILITARY RESERVES

The Senate Armed Services Committee has issued a report stating that the nation's military reserves are badly undermanned. It blames the shortage largely on the calling of inactive reservists—notably World War II veterans—to duty in the Korean war.

The report stresses the importance of "a strong, ready reserve force," but finds the reserves of all the services are "suffering from serious shortage of manpower." The National Guard is in better shape but needs at least a year's training to be ready for combat.

Nearly a million reservists, mostly World War II veterans, were summoned to active duty in the Korean war. Thousands of them were in action while thousands of active reservists, paid for training duty, remained at home.

"This inexplicable policy created an attitude of distrust and resentment on the part of the nonpaid reservists toward the armed forces which still exists," the report said. Some highlights of the report follow. Public hearings will be held by the committee at an early date:

Many parents and wives refuse to let sons and husbands sign up for reserve training for fear they will be called up.

Some employers discriminate against reservists because of the time required for military training or the possible loss of the worker during a war.

Many reserve units are far under strength, some with less than a tenth of their authorized personnel. Others have too many officers; two few enlisted men. The Air Force reserve has 2,000 more officers than airman.

There is a critical shortage of young pilots in Air Force and Navy air reserve units. Average age of pilots in many units is above 30.—G. P.

TEST OF CALIFORNIA'S STANDARDS

Mrs. James Roosevelt's sensational answer to her husband's suit for separate maintenance certainly added nothing to the lustre of the Roosevelt family name, particularly as it purports to quote some of the most explosive material from a letter Roosevelt himself wrote to her.

But the public's greatest interest will be in what if any effect the disclosures will have on Roosevelt's political fortunes. Although badly beaten by Earl Warren for the California governorship, he still has hopes of duplicating his father's political achievements, and has announced his candidacy for congress in California this year. He announces that he will go ahead with his candidacy regardless of the divorce suit revelations.

So the election down there will be both a test of the Roosevelt popularity and of the moral standards of the voters. It is to be hoped that Dr. Kimsey will be on hand to give us a blow by blow description, with scientifically weighted conclusions afterward.

RESHUFFLE OF OREGON BANKS

The First National Bank of Portland announces that 15 of its banking affiliates, of which one is in Silverton, will become branches of the big bank to add \$140,000,000 to its resources and to make it for the first time in modern history at least Oregon and the Northwest's largest.

This is not exactly a merger because the banks have been part of the First National system for a number of years. It is a logical development which has been delayed by legal restrictions. The one difference we can see to the public is that the borrowing limit of the banks affected heretofore limited to 10 per cent of each unit's capital and surplus, is now unlimited. This will carry some benefits to larger borrowers in these localities.

Branch banking is a big subject on which there is much to be said on both sides. But so far as Oregon is concerned this decision is already made, and the rounding out of the First National system of banks is to be welcomed.

Cahill Loses Recall Vote

As secretary of the Taft-Nelscott-Delake Water District. Recalled by a vote of 320 to 98 was Otto W. Cahill of Nelscott, a retired Air Force colonel.

Cahill, who had been outspoken in his criticism of law enforcement in the beach resort towns, said he believed the voters based their decision on issues not related to the water district.

THE "ATOM" OF ITS DAY



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Good Feeling Manifested At Dinner for Dave Beck

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON — In Washington, where dining out is one of the major industries, some dinner parties are held with a purpose, some are not. Possibly one in the former category was held the other day by the former president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Eric Johnston, in honor of the head of the world's largest labor union, Teamster Dave Beck.

The dinner came simultaneously with Beck's loan of \$1,000,000 to the biggest trailer company, Fruehauf, and his offer of another \$5,000,000 to New York trucking firms to install modern equipment along the New York waterfront.

Those who attended the small and very pleasant dinner, and those who have watched Beck's operations with private business wonder if this inaugurates a new era of business-labor cooperation. Others who know Beck well say that, even as teamster boss of the Northwest, he believed in employer-employee cooperation.

At any rate guests who turned up at the motion picture headquarters of movie czar Johnston included Chief Justice Earl Warren who knew Beck back in California; Secretary of Health and Welfare Oveta Hobby; Senators Magnuson and Jackson of Beck's home state, Washington; Congressman Jack Shelley of San Francisco, a member of the Teamsters Union; most of the congressmen from Washington, together with California Congressmen Hollifield and George Miller.

Nothing was said at the dinner about politics. But after dinner and just before Johnston showed his guests an English film, "Captain's Paradise," he made a little speech about Beck.

"Dave Beck and I don't always agree," he said. "I remember one time I was running for the senate in Washington state and went to see Mr. Beck for his support. He told me quite honestly that he was committed to support Men Wallgren, and so naturally he opposed me."

"But though we have differed, I consider Mr. Beck a fine American who is working for the best interests of his country. If everyone else knew Dave Beck as I do they would have the same admiration for his honor and his honesty."

Guests who listened to this tribute from the ex-President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce recalled another Teamsters' dinner at the Statler Hotel when many business leaders jeered at the all-out Teamsters support given to Franklin Roosevelt. And one day after the Eric Johnston dinner, guests picked up the paper to see that the same teamsters Union had loaned \$1,000,000 to Fruehauf Trailers and offered another \$5,000,000 to New York trucking firms.

Remarkable one guest: "Moscow would never believe it, even if Malenkov was here to see it in person."

RUSSIAN HUMOR

Igor Gouzenko, the former Soviet code clerk who exposed the amazing secrets of Russian espionage, is a serious man. Any one who has experienced what he's experienced would naturally be serious. But he also has flashes of humor.

After making an appointment to meet this writer at 7 a.m., in a small house whose exact whereabouts I still do not know, Gouzenko himself did not show up until 2:30 p.m.

I had arrived, breakfasted, a steelhead is a rainbow trout which has migrated to salt water and returned to fresh water, changing color in the process.

while it was still dark, sat, chafed, paced the floor all morning and part of the early afternoon. Finally Gouzenko arrived.

"Dobro Youtro," I said in my best Russian, meaning "Good Morning."

"Dobro Vechir," he replied in Russian, then added in English with a smile: "It's evening now, not morning."

DIRKSEN BOYCOTT

It was meant for GOP ears only, but Illinois' suave, savvy Sen. Everett Dirksen has urged Republican senators to boycott the Television program of their former colleague, Ex-Sen. Blair Moody of Michigan.

Dirksen is worried that Moody may run as the Democratic candidate against white-maned Sen. Homer Ferguson in Michigan and doesn't want Republicans to help build up Moody by appearing on his television program. So, behind the closed doors of the senate policy committee, he told Republican colleagues that Moody's program is "slandered," and urged them to boycott it. New Jersey's professional Sen. Alex Smith immediately jumped up to agree.

He had appeared on the program once, he complained, and felt that Moody had peppered him with a lot of tough questions.

Note—Despite Dirksen's plea, republicans continue appearing regularly on the Moody show. They state that Moody, who covered Washington politics for the Detroit News for 20 years so objectively that few people knew he was a democrat, is one of the fairest moderators in television.

WASHINGTON WHIRL

Kansas' modest Sen. Frank Carlson, the president's favorite, received personal birthday messages last week from both Ike and Mamie. But the one that delighted him the most was a scrawled note from the President's mother-in-law, Mrs. John Doud. As one Swede to another, Mrs. Doud wrote: "Halsningsar I mangul," which is Swedish for "many greetings."

Ohio's white-maned Sen. John Bricker is so stuck on his treaty-limiting amendment that he has privately served notice he'll re-introduce it every year until it passes. Inside fact is that the most hamstringing features of the Bricker amendment were not written by Bricker but by Utah's moody Sen. Arthur Watkins. Ironically, Watkins professes to believe that the U.S. Constitution, which he is seeking to sabotage, was divinely inspired.

The New York Times' ace capital correspondent, William S. White, has written the epic, untold story of the late Senator Taft's life. It is a brilliant piece of reporting, soon to be published in book form as "The Taft Story."

Ever since Taft's death, his old guard followers have been growing increasingly restless until now they are fairly seething with discontent. They have been writing amazing letters to each other, accusing President Eisenhower of selling out to the new deal and wrecking the Republican party. However, they blame the "man on Ike's shoulder," Gov. Tom Dewey, more than the President himself.

In desperation, these old guard republicans are trying to drum up a meeting of the GOP National Committee, in the hope they can take control away from Chairman Len Hall, a Dewey man.

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Cleaning the Money

Albany Democrat-Herald

Chris Kowitz in his column in the Corvallis Gazette-Times tells of "several restaurants in the Inland Empire (Spokane area) that clean their coins before giving them to customers in change. Every coin taken in is polished with silverware-cleaner until it shines like new."

"We've never," Kowitz said, "found a restaurant in Oregon that cleans its money."

Not many of them "clean" their customers either. It has always seemed to us that the dirtiest money (physically) was the paper bills, though we've never rejected one for that reason. We've never seen anyone undertake to clean the paper money, though some of it cries out for cleaning. Silver doesn't seem to be nearly the dirt-and-germ-carrier that paper is. Not the least objection to scrubbing it, however.

OPEN FORUM

Wants to Know Just What Is in Fluorine

To the Editor:

In your paper of Jan. 29, there appeared a report on the benefits of Fluorine in water supply for the prevention of tooth decay. Also that it would do no harm, although it is listed in my encyclopedia as poison.

In fairness to the general public that doesn't take the time to check a complete report should be made in the paper, with complete details as listed in the encyclopedia including the various products used in manufacturing.

MRS. A. OLSON

Let the Curtain Fall

Astorian-Budget

Our 21 ex-Americans who chose communism at Pannunjon have now withdrawn behind the iron curtain, which will now, we hope, close them off from the sight of western mankind for a long time to come. They have had far more attention than they deserved, since we are all curious as to what causes the ticking of an individual who would willingly prefer life under communism to life in the U.S. It would be interesting if, at the end of two or three years or so, the iron curtain could be lifted momentarily to let us see whether these individuals have had their fill of red life, and then the curtain could be once more dropped over them—permanently.

CHILD OUTBITES SNAKE

SHREVEPORT, La. (U.P.)—A biting battle between a 17-month-old Shreveport child and a young moccasin snake ended with the snake on the short end.

Mrs. Mary Townsend said a doctor's examination of her son, Gregory, showed he received nothing more than a small wound on his right hand in the encounter yesterday.

The snake died—minus his tail.

A GOOD FARM LEADER

Pendleton East Oregonian

Jens Terjeson has announced he will resign next month from his position as chairman of the Oregon Wheat commission. We sincerely hope that does not signal the retirement of Mr. Terjeson from all such activity. His thinking on farm problems has been extremely beneficial to the state of Oregon and particularly to farmers of this region. When visitors comment so frequently upon the advanced thinking of Umatilla county farmers they know the work of Mr. Terjeson.

THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

Swift Offers "One Good Reason" to Believe in God

By REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

In a friendly conversation recently I was asked (almost challenged) to cite one good reason for believing there is a God. One good reason for believing in an overall Master Mind (God), is the marvelous construction, not only of the physical world of material elements, but even more so, the intricate construction of organic life.

The human brain, for one instance, with its interrelated areas having to do with feeling, thinking, remembering, affection, morality, and conscience, is quite obviously the product of some source not human!

Reason alone leads one to believe that this marvelous organ, the brain, was designed by One to whom alone we can give the name "God." Reason alone then forces us to believe there is a God.

There are of course, almost limitless reasons for believing in God besides the one mentioned.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Women Really Know How Husbands Should Behave

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK (U.P.)—If there is one thing every woman feels she knows for sure, it is how a husband ought to behave to hold his wife's love. Be she Co-ed, housewife, old maid or grandma, she can rattle off extemporaneously at least 999 easy ways a husband can make himself more of a shining knight in his wife's eyes.

These lists make about as much impression on the average stubborn husband as a headstrong moth trying to butt down the Empire State building. He notices that no woman ever endorses that famous old masculine prescription for maintaining a wife in health and happiness—"Keep her barefooted."

Yet this rule worked pretty well for centuries. It probably could be proved even today that in those areas of the world where wives go barefooted the divorce and crime rate is lower, the families are larger, than in lands where they wear shoes. Tight shoes actually may upset more wives than tight husbands.

The latest entrant in the husband-improving derby is Mrs. Veronica Dengel, a lecturer who also tells women how they can be charming and beautiful, and how they can hold their husbands. Why doesn't some woman write a book telling wives how to let go of their husbands? There might be a fortune in it.

The virtue of Mrs. Dengel's list of suggestions on how hubby can win his wife's love forever is that it is surprisingly small. Just these five: Serve his bride breakfast in bed once a week; spend 15 minutes a day cooing her; do the heavy housework himself; let her take a vacation by herself each year; surprise her with little attentions, such as phoning her from the office to tell her how much he misses her.

Frankly, I can't think of five surer ways to break up a reasonably happy home than for a husband to carry out these suggestions literally.

Take that breakfast in bed routine. All most men can cook is canned chili. What wife is going to put up with a husband who tenderly compels her once a week to lie in bed and eat canned chili before she has even brushed her teeth? On the other hand, if she gets up and cooks the breakfast herself, what sense does it make for her to make a running broad-jump back to bed and wait for

After brooding over Mrs. Dengel's list, I have decided to forget it. Most wives have rather set opinions of their own on what the man in their life ought to do to make them happy.

What wife can be made happy by a husband who takes advice from another lady?

FACES ARE RED

RICHMOND, Va. (U.P.)—Officials explained the item in the Henrico County budget was just a typographical error.

The item, as it appeared in the budget under the Welfare Department: "Graft and art supplies."



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